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CIA AGENTS AMONG THEMSELVES

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The US spy agency, (Central Intelligence Agency, abbreviated CIA) has already been accused of the most terrible crimes and even worse stupidities -- from the unsuccessful attempt to conclude a separate peace with Kesselring, to the now world famous "ugly American" in South East Asia, to the abortive landing in the Cuban Bay of Pigs in 1961, yes it has been called the "Invisible Government" in the title of a best-seller. New, however, is the accusation that they also steal jewels -- of course only with the best intentions, namely as a "cover" for a burglary which was concerned with secret papers. This is complicated by the circumstance that the papers stolen by the CIA belonged to it, and by the fact that one of its own officials made the accusation, one who according to his own statements could have become the head of the agency but refused the honor, because, in his opinion, no one should rise from the position of a mere agent to that of director and be in the position to cover the innumerable blunders of his colleagues.

The current head, Helms, is a former agent, and Hans Tofte accuses him of unbelievable clumsiness and awkward attempts at covering them up. Tofte is an adventurous Dane, who fled before Hitler's march [into Denmark], worked his way into the intelligence service via Singapore, showed great courage in supplying Tito with ammunition and equipment, and after the war carried on honorable business transactions in paper clips and loose-leaf office records in small US cities such as Mason City, Iowa. Friends that he made there were more than a little surprised when they read in the newspapers who he actually was -- the disclosure of his identity as well as of his cover story is only one of the proofs that his accusation, that the CIA is awkwardly clumsy, may not be so completely unjustified. Because in order to defend itself against this accusation, the CIA named two more of its agents and thus compromised them.

A Man Named Slocum

One of these is a man named Slocum, who one day felt a desire to buy a house and -- what a coincidence -- a real estate agent showed him Tofte's house, whose basement was for rent. Tofte's 86 year old mother-in-law lived on the upper floor, while the Toftes -- another coincidence, since it was Sunday -- were in the